



NEVADA STATE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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NOVEMBER 2003

Two Big Weekends . . .

Coin Show Sets New Records for Success

The ninth annual Carson City Mint Coin Show at the Nevada State Museum was once again a huge success, thanks to event coordinator Kathy Baker and staff and volunteers! Forty dealers were present this year, buying and selling coins and offering free appraisals. The total net revenues for the two-day event totaled a record \$20,592! That's double last year's totals.

Four sponsors participated this year, Wells Fargo Bank, International Game Technology, Carson City Nugget, and Mission Industries. Special thanks to all of them for making this an exceptional show.

Over 5,000 raffle tickets were sold, bringing in \$4,140. Coin dealer Darlene Eggimann from Engiman's Rare Coins won the ladies coin watch; Doug Daniels of Marathon LTD won the men's coin watch (actually his dog Enza won the prize).

Robert Landau from Alamo, California won the grand prize, a unique photograph of the Carson City U.S. Mint, taken around 1895. The photograph held a Morgan Silver Dollar with a "CC" mint mark along with two silver medallions with "CC" mint marks. Robert and his wife visited the museum earlier in the year, and he was very happy and surprised when he won the grand prize. Robert is an avid coin collector.

This year gold panning was offered. Ray Geiser, Scott Klette and David Shipman of the exhibits program built the gold panning sluice and portrayed prospectors at the show, educating those who were interested in the art of gold panning. The Friends of the Nevada State Museum sold water and chocolate coins. Planning is underway to determine the dates of next year's show.

Special thanks to staff members and the Friends of the Nevada State Museum—we couldn't do it without you!!!—*Staff reports*

Tin Cup Tea: Having Fun While Raising Funds

A good thing just keeps getting better. The Tin Cup Tea and Chuck Wagon BBQ at the Governor's Mansion on September 13 overflowed fund raising goals, netting an astounding \$44,000! One half or \$22,000 goes to the Nevada State Museum; the other half goes to the W. M. Keck Museum, Mackay School of Mines, University of Nevada Reno. This represents \$14,000 more than last year. Almost seven hundred people attended, which is over one hundred more than last year.

Tin Cup Teas supported special projects, like new outdoor signs for the museum. Every year a portion of proceeds goes to conservation treatments at the Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Research Center. The center showcases conserved collections in mansion exhibits during the event. The bulk of proceeds this year goes for education programs, exhibits, and the preservation of collections.

The museum and Board of Museums and History thank Governor Kenny Guinn and First Lady Dema Guinn for hosting this successful fundraiser. The museum thanks the Governor's Mansion staff and our partner, the W.M. Keck Museum, the Nevada State Library and Archives and the Nevada State Railroad Museum provided assistance. We also thank our numerous sponsors and donors for their contributions. All museum staff and many volunteers assisted with preparations; however the leadership of Bob Nylen and Kathi Baker warrant special recognition. The Tin Cup Tea represents a wonderful collaboration and ideal fundraiser for supporting the learning, preservation, and enjoyment of Nevada's heritage.—*Staff reports*

Views of both events will be found on pages 5, 6 and 7



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The museum is an agency of the State of Nevada

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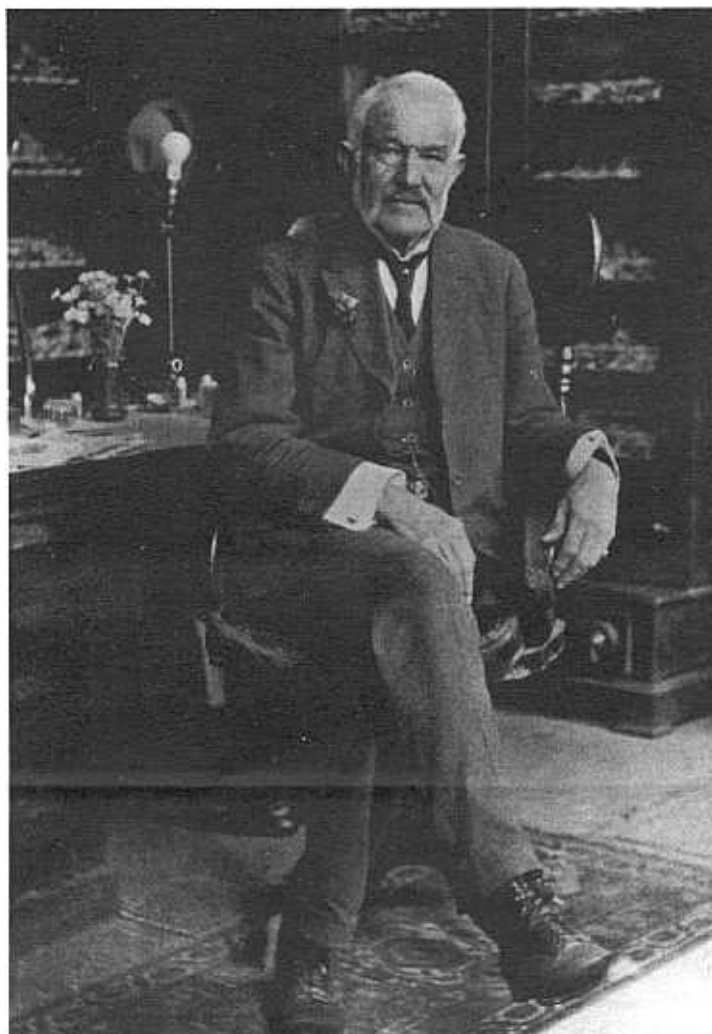
Become a member and support the Nevada State Museum. Membership includes free admission to all seven state museums, a 15% discount in all museum stores, the Nevada Historical Society Quarterly, newsletters, and selected invitations to exhibit openings, educational programs, and events.

- Individual \$35
- Family \$50
- Sustaining \$100
- Contributing \$250
- Patron \$500
- Benefactor \$1000
- For seniors 65+ who simply want free admission and a 15% discount and not the Nevada Historical Society Quarterly, a special senior membership is available at only ... \$20

Other facilities included in your membership are:

- Nevada State Historical Society, Reno
- Nevada State Museum & Historical Society, Las Vegas
- Lost City Museum, Overton
- Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City
- Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
- East Ely Railroad Depot Museum

Views of the Past



The wonderful photograph of Dr. Simeon Lemuel Lee (1844-1934) was recently donated to the museum's history program. The photo was taken in Dr. Lee's study at his home at 340 Minnesota Street in Carson City. He was a prominent physician and surgeon in Nevada but was also an avid collector.

Dr. Lee's hobby was collecting rich specimens of ores, semiprecious stones, rare ceramics, fossils, weapons, stamps, coins, native-American baskets, and other rare objects. His wife as a memorial to her late husband gave Dr. Lee's collection to the State of Nevada in 1934. The collection was displayed for a time in the Nevada State Capitol building until 1941, when it was turned over to the newly organized Nevada State Museum. Dr. Lee's collection was a valuable addition to the development of the museum collections. In the photograph you can see some of his collections on display.

Coming Events

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

November 25: Goldfield's Forgotten Hollywood Actor Brad Dexter, by Guy Louis Rocha, Assistant Administrator Nevada State Library and Archives.

December 23, 2003: No program due to Christmas Holiday.

January 27, 2004: Wild Nevada, by Brian Beffort, Conservation Director for Friends of Nevada Wilderness.

These programs are part of the Museum's Frances Humphrey evening lecture series held on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. There is no charge for the events. The Loftin Park entrance on the

north side of the museum complex will be used for all programs. For more information call 687-4810, ext. 239.

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

November 12: To be announced.

December 10: To be announced.

January 14: To be announced.

Programs at the Nevada State Railroad Museum are held in the Interpretive Center at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, and are sponsored by the Friends of the Museum. Admission is free.



This is an example of what is now illegal to collect by law.
Today the fine includes money as well as jail time.

Arrowhead Hunting: It's No Longer a Hobby; It's a Crime

By Anthropology Staff

A recent incident in the Reno area emphasizes changes in our Nevada lifestyle. In years past, State of Nevada brochures touted Nevada as a locality where hobbyists could collect "arrowheads." In September, the U.S. Forest Service, local Indian tribes, and the Nevada Rock Art Foundation issued a press release reporting the theft of large rocks decorated with prehistoric petroglyphs from Forest Service lands on Peavine Mountain.

Hikers familiar with the area reported the theft to the Forest Service, and the Secret Witness program offered a \$4,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the thieves. Within a day of the newspaper articles and television news reports, a Secret Witness tip led to recovery of one of the rock art panels in the front yard of a Reno residence, and other panels were discovered nearby. The rock art was damaged during its theft. Although no arrests were made, pending investigation, the perpetrators could be charged under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

The continual loss and destruction of archaeological sites, both historic and prehistoric, led to the passage of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act in 1979. This federal law prohibits unauthorized artifact collecting from archaeological sites on public lands and lays out penalties for violating the law. The state also has an antiquities law for state lands. In recent years, federal agencies have been increasingly vigilant and focused on enforcing this law. Fines and prison sentences have been imposed upon perpetrators, and any tools or vehicles used in perpetrating the crime can be confiscated, sold at public auction, and the proceeds applied toward damages and penalties.

For residents angered about the loss of their former pas-

Museum Past Pages

The following article on the beginning of the museum's CC mint coin collection appeared in the *Biennial Report of the Directors of the Nevada State Museum*, July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1952.

Carson City Mint Coin Collection — 1950

In recognition of the fact that the Museum occupies the building made historically important in once having been the United States Branch Mint, Judge Guild, Board Chairman, inaugurated a Carson City Coin Collection in October 1950 by contributing an 1892 CC silver dollar. This was soon followed by donations from other public-spirited citizens, enabling the Museum to open its Coin Collection display on Nevada Day of that year.

In observance of Nevada Day, October 31, 1951, the Collection was moved from its small exhibit case to a more advantageous setting in the Vault exhibit case of the new first floor exhibit room. During the holiday observance the Collection was enriched by the loan of an extremely valuable plaque containing first-issue CC coins from the late Harold M. Budd Collection sent to the Museum for the occasion through the kindness of Mrs. Budd of Los Angeles.

The Collection has aroused gratifying response from Museum visitors, a large number of whom are coin enthusiasts especially interested in CC coins because of their comparative rarity. Out-of-State visitors unacquainted with silver dollars are intrigued by the Collection and its relation to the Museum building's history.

It is the Museum's goal to acquire, insofar as is possible, one piece of each year of any denomination coined in the Carson City Branch Mint. Through the attainment of such a collection, the Museum would not only have an exhibit of rare interest, but one to be regarded with respect by numismatists. Toward the furtherance of this goal, Mr. Bill Graham of Reno has generously contributed one hundred 1891 uncirculated CC silver dollars to be used on the basis of exchange for needed coins.

The collection has been supplemented by a photograph of a Carson City Mint Coin Press made by Morgan and Orr in Philadelphia, still in use in the San Francisco Mint, and a Photostat of the establishment of the Carson City Mint by Congress on March 3, 1863. Both photograph and Photostat were presented to the Museum by Mr. Frederick J. Monteagle of Oakland, California.

Editor's Note: (Judge Guild's goal of developing the CC coin collection was finally reached when the museum first received on loan then had donated the wonderful Norm Blitz CC Coin Collection by Wells Fargo Bank back in 2000. The Blitz CC Coin Collection does indeed attract as Judge Guild hoped the interest of persons in the numismatic field.)

time, they need to realize that an ever increasing number of citizens, especially younger generations, are concerned about the loss of these irreplaceable cultural resources. Appreciation of artifacts and archaeology is now best pursued through museum displays, federal agency programs, avocational archaeology groups, television programs, and anthropology literature. Our curated anthropological collections are also available for public viewing through the museum's Behind The Scenes Tours and upon request.

Marjorie Russell Clothing, Textile Website Expands

By JAN LOVERIN
Curator of Textile and Clothing

Nearly three years ago, Drs. Marilyn Horn and her husband Dale Bohmont generously funded the beginning of our costume computerization project. This began with digitally photographing the artifacts from the University of Nevada School of Home Economics collection and has now expanded into garments from the Nevada State Museum. (Photographs of Nevada Historical Society artifacts were also taken and will be incorporated into their website.)

This project has proven to be the singly most important project at the Center. It has also been most challenging . . . mounting a bias cut 1930s dress with no opening, onto a mannequin with wide shoulders is problematic: the dress doesn't go over the head and shoulders, and the dress is so narrow on the hips, it can't be pulled up from the bottom! This project can also be incredibly frustrating . . . as we all know computers can make most of us scream, but when all of your data is lost due to a bad hard drive, you cry.

This project has most importantly been deeply rewarding. We are now proud to announce that our Virtual Exhibit, titled "Six Decades of Women's Fashions" features seventy-five images. This means that you, your cousins, friends and acquaintances can access our collections online. It also means that we featured seventy-five women's dresses without using seventy-five mannequins.

To create a major costume exhibition, curators need the number of dressforms or mannequins for each garment on display. Well, we did it online with using only thirteen dressforms. We padded out, reshaped, and took in each dress to correctly fit the form. This work was done extensively by Christine Farlow, whose computer expertise and photographic skills made this project happen.

It also could not have been accomplished without Nevada Cultural Affairs computer expert Tracy Jones, who keeps our computers operational, and N.C.A. webmaster Cheryl Mathwig, who makes the website look so great! My sincere thanks to all of you and to Drs. Marilyn Horn and Dale Bohmont for their continued support.

Minting Operations — July-September 2003

During the month of July through the end of September, Coin Press No. 1 minted 1262 silver medallions and 700 brass medallions. During Labor Day and the Museum's Coin Show hundreds of people stopped to watch the press in operation.

The museum will be minting a number of special medallions during 2003 and 2004. The organization is planning to do commemorative medallions with the museum including V&T Railway Reconstruction Project, Newlands Project (T.C.I.D.), Nevada Judicial Historical Society, Pipers' Opera House, City of Gardnerville, Washoe County Library, and Nevada State Parks.

The museum's commemorative medallion series can be purchased at the Museum Store by calling 775-687-4810, ext. 234. And the press is always operated the last Friday of each month. The following are medallions available at the store:

Nevada State Capitol: Open edition, silver and brass, price \$25 silver and brass \$4.

Carson City Mint Building: Open edition, silver and brass, price \$25, brass \$4.

Virginia and Truckee Railroad: Open edition, silver and brass, price \$25 silver and brass, \$4.

Nevada State Seal: Open edition, silver and brass, price \$25 silver and brass \$4.

Pony Express: Open edition, silver and brass, price \$25 silver and brass \$4.

Goldfield Centennial 1902-2002: Limited Edition 500 silver and 100 gold plated, brass unlimited series. Available in Museum Store. Silver and brass, silver \$25, brass \$4. Gold plated sold out and a few silver still available.

Reno Centennial 1903-2003: Sold only by the City of Reno. Limited Edition of 500, 100 Gold Plated. Sold out.

Nevada State Engineer Centennial Medallion 1903-2003. Limited Edition 300. Not available at the Museum Store at this time.

Nevada State Judicial Historical Society—Series No. 1 minted in 2000. Limited edition of 1000. Price \$30. Minted in silver only.

Nevada Judicial Historical Society—Silver No. 2, 2003 issued. Limited edition of 1000. Available at the Museum Store, price \$30. Minted in Silver only.

Jeanne Dini Cultural Center 1912-2002 Medallion—Silver and brass minting. Available in Museum Store, price \$100 for silver medallion only.

Nevada Gaming Commission Medallion—2003. Not available in the Museum Store. Silver only.

Nevada State Legislative Medallion—2003—Limited edition of 500 silver medallions and 400 brass. Only available at the Nevada State Legislative Store.

Nevada State Museum

Museum Store

600 North Carson Street

Carson City, NV 89701

Phone No.: 775-687-4810, ext. 234 or call the History program at 687-4810, ext 239.

Message From Our Director, Jim Barmore

The museum's strategic plan ranks audience development as the number one long-term critical issue facing the museum. We address this issue through marketing, special events, facility rentals, memberships, exhibits, and educational programs. We've achieved success, but haven't reached our full potential. Now we have a chance!

The museum received hiring approval for an education manager—a key position for serving audiences and furthering our educational mission. The position has existed at the museum but was frozen due to budget constraints. True, the museum has a strong tradition of education, and we currently offer a variety of opportunities for understanding Nevada's natural and cultural heritage. But, now we can build upon existing programs and eventually expand in new and exciting ways.

First and foremost, the education manager will enhance our school program for elementary and high school students.

Over ten thousand students from throughout Nevada visit the museum each year. The educator and docents will tie tours to school curriculum, prepare teachers, and formally organize and present tours. School tours offer some students their first museum experience, instilling a lasting impression for life-long learning in museums. Some schools don't have adequate bus funds for field trips. The educator and docents will take the museum to the classroom through an expanded Museum in a Trunk program. More students will receive a high quality learning experience. The same is true with adult audiences. The educator will develop and market commercial tours. This is good for the Friends of the Nevada State Museum. The educator will provide our committed volunteer docents the support they need.

We're excited—for the museum, Friends, and audiences of all ages.

Exhibit Program Joins In Recent Coin Show Festivities

By RAY GEISER
Nevada State Museum Exhibits Manager

The exhibits program had a great time panning for gold during the coin show. This year's event provided an opportunity for the program to build a gold panning sluice. Scott Klette and Dave Shipman developed the design and constructed the wooden water troughs while Dorothy Nylen created the realistic rockwork. For \$2.00 visitors had an opportunity to pan for gold. Everyone who tried was assured of finding real placer gold, which they were able



to take home. This turned out to be a great opportunity for those of us who generally work behind the scenes. We were able to talk with visitors and share a bit of the state's mining history. The gold panning sluice meets current ADA requirements and may be used at other community events. We will certainly be back for next year's coin show.

The Under One Sky chang-



David Shipman helps a gold panner.

ing gallery is featuring the work of Native American artist Jean LaMarr. Along with prints, paintings, and mixed media, the exhibit features two large canvases suspended from poles and laminated with handmade paper. Jean LaMarr is a well-known artist whose work has been on display in several other countries. This show will be on display through January 5.

Not everyone gets a chance to operate the famous Coin Press No. 1 but now for just two quarters and a penny everyone can operate the new penny press located at the bottom of the granite staircase in the historic mint. The penny press utilizes some of the same basic mechanical designs as Coin Press No. 1 and offers three different images to choose from. The manufacturer's graphic panel will be replaced with a custom graphic image featuring our new cartoon character. A special thanks to the Klette/Griffin gift for the funds to acquire the penny press.



The newest of the contemporary Native Artists of the Great Basin, *The Art of Jean LaMarr*, is now on exhibit in the Museum's J.W. Calhoun Changing Gallery in the main building of Nevada State Museum. The exhibit will be on display through January 5, 2004.

Photos from the Tin Cup Tea



Two Great Events on Film



Scott Hamilton from Santa Barbara and Briana Brady of Monterey were both attending the Tin Cup festivities.

Photographs shown were taken by Suzan Oliver, Sue Ann Monteleone and Jack Gibson

Visitors were looking at the offerings of the many dealers and then making their purchases before they left.



Last year two of the prizes at the drawing were won by Enza, owned by Doug Daniels. This year the dog only won one prize, the men's watch for his owner .

Dealers were busy both days with their set-ups outside in the lot under a tent. The two days were comfortable and sunny, and all dealers were busy.



The Kids Enjoyed the Festivities



Nobody said that the kids attending the Coin Show with their parents couldn't have fun also. The gold panning feature was designed for that purpose, although the grownups had their fun with it, too. Everyone using it walked away with gold dust samples.

